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AN ACT

RELATING TO INDIAN EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR A KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM FOR AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS TO PREPARE THEM FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSEWORK.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-23A-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 151, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-23A-1. SHORT TITLE.--Chapter 22, Article 23A NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Indian Education Act"."

Section 2. Section 22-23A-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 151, Section 5) is amended to read:

"22-23A-5. INDIAN EDUCATION DIVISION--CREATED-- ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT--DUTIES.--

A. The "Indian education division" is created within the department. The secretary shall appoint an assistant secretary for Indian education, who shall direct the activities of the division.

B. The Indian education division shall:

(1) provide assistance to school districts and tribes to meet the educational needs of American Indian students;

(2) provide assistance to school districts and tribes in the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of curricula in native languages, culture and

1 history designed for American Indian students;

2 (3) develop or select for implementation a
3 challenging, sequential, culturally relevant curriculum to
4 provide instruction to American Indian students in
5 kindergarten through sixth grade to prepare them for
6 pre-advanced placement and advanced placement coursework in
7 grades seven through twelve;

8 (4) provide assistance to school districts
9 and tribes to develop curricula and instructional materials
10 in native languages, culture and history in conjunction and
11 by contract with native language practitioners and tribal
12 elders, unless the use of written language is expressly
13 prohibited by the tribe;

14 (5) establish an Indian education advisory
15 council;

16 (6) by January 2006, enter into agreements
17 with each tribe or authorized tribal educational entity to
18 share programmatic information and to coordinate technical
19 assistance for public schools that serve American Indian
20 students;

21 (7) seek funds to establish an Indian
22 education office in the northwest corner of the state to
23 implement agreements with each tribe or authorized tribal
24 educational entity, monitor the progress of American Indian
25 students and coordinate technical assistance at the public

1 schools that serve American Indian students;

2 (8) require school districts to obtain a
3 signature of approval by the tribal governments or tribal
4 government designees residing within school district
5 boundaries, verifying that the tribes agree to Indian
6 education policies and procedures pursuant to federal
7 requirements;

8 (9) seek funds to establish, develop and
9 implement the following support services for the purposes of
10 increasing the number of American Indian teachers and
11 principals and providing continued professional development
12 for educational assistants, teachers and principals serving
13 American Indian students, in conjunction with the Indian
14 education advisory council:

- 15 (a) recruitment and retention;
- 16 (b) academic transition programs;
- 17 (c) academic financial support;
- 18 (d) teacher preparation;
- 19 (e) teacher induction; and
- 20 (f) professional development;

21 (10) develop curricula to provide
22 instruction in tribal history and government and develop
23 plans to implement these subjects into history and government
24 courses in school districts throughout the state;

25 (11) ensure that native language bilingual

1 programs are part of a school district's professional
2 development plan, as provided in Section 22-10A-19.1 NMSA
3 1978; and

4 (12) develop a plan to establish a
5 post-secondary investment system for Indian students to which
6 parents, tribes and the state may contribute." _____

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